61

STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (2017-2018)

(SIXTEENTH LOK SABHA)

MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

(DEPARTMENT OF EMPOWERMENT OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES)

Review of the Functioning of Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation of India (ALIMCO)

SIXTY-FIRST REPORT

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI
August, 2018/Shravana, 1940 (Saka)

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Review of the Functioning of Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation of India (ALIMCO)

Presented to Lok Sabha on 09.08.2018
Laid in Rajya Sabha on 09.08.2018

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI
August, 2018/Shravana, 1940 (Saka)

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COMPOSITION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (2017-18)

SHRI RAMESH BAIS - CHAIRPERSON

MEMBERS

LOK SABHA

2. Shri Kanti Lal Bhuria
3. Shri Santokh Singh Chaudhary
4. Shri Sher Singh Ghubaya
5. Shri Jhina Hikaka
6. Shri Faggan Singh Kulaste
7. Shri Sadashiv Kisan Lokhande
8. Smt. K. Maragatham
9. Shri Kariya Munda
10. Shri Asaduddin Owaisi
11. Dr. Udit Raj
12. Shri Ch. Malla Reddy
13. Smt. Satabdi Roy
14. Kunwar Bharatendra Singh
15. Prof. Sadhu Singh
16. Smt. Mamata Thakur
17. Shri Mansukhbhai Dhanjibhai Vasava
18. Shri Tej Pratap Singh Yadav
- *19. Dr. Karan Singh Yadav
20. Vacant
21. Vacant

RAJYA SABHA

22. Smt. Jharna Das Baidya
- #23. Shri Abir Ranjan Biswas
24. Shri Chunibhai Kanjibhai Gohel
25. Smt. Sarojini Hembram
26. Dr. Narendra Jadhav
- **27. Smt. Kanta Kardam
28. Smt. Vijila Sathyananth
29. Smt. Wansuk Syiem
30. Smt. Chhaya Verma
31. Shri Ramkumar Verma

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* Nominated to the Committee *w.e.f.* 14.03.2018

** Nominated to the Committee *w.e.f.* 02.06.2018

\# Nominated to the Committee *w.e.f.* 23.06.2018 in place of Shri Ahamed Hassan.

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

1.	Shri Ashok Kumar Singh	-	Additional Secretary
2.	Shri Ashok Sajwan	-	Director
3.	Smt. Mamta Kemwal	-	Additional Director
4.	Smt. Madhu Bhutani	-	Deputy Secretary

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairperson, Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment (2017-18) having been authorized by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, present this Sixty-first Report on 'Review of the Functioning of Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation of India (ALIMCO)'.

2. The Committee took oral evidence of the representatives of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities) on 29th June, 2018. The observations of the Committee are based on the appraisal of the evidence of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities.

3. The Committee considered and adopted the Report at their sitting held on 7th August, 2018.

4. The Committee wish to express their thanks to the officers of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities) for furnishing the written replies and other material/information and also for appearing before the Committee to tender their evidence in connection with the examination of the subject.

5. For facility of reference and convenience, the observations and recommendations of the Committee have been printed in bold letters in the body of the Report.

New Delhi;
7 August, 2018
16 Shravana, 1940 (Saka)

RAMESH BAIS,
Chairperson,
Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment.

REPORT

CHAPTER – 1

INTRODUCTORY

1.1 Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation of India (ALIMCO) is a Schedule 'C' Miniratna Category II Central Public Sector Enterprise, registered under Section 8 (Not for Profit motive) of the Companies Act 2013, is functioning under the Administrative Control of Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities. The objective is to give benefits to the PwDs by manufacturing Rehabilitation Aids for persons with disabilities and by promoting, encouraging and developing the availability, use, supply and distribution of Artificial Limbs and other Rehabilitation Aids to the Divyangjans in the country. The main thrust of the Corporation is to provide better quality of Aids & Appliances to larger number of Divyangjans at reasonable price. The Corporation started manufacturing artificial aids in 1976.

1.2 At present ALIMCO has five Auxiliary Production Centres, four Regional Marketing Centres and one Outreach Centre for producing various types of assistive devices to serve all types of disabilities. The details are as under:-

H.Q. & Main Plant	Auxiliary Production Centres	Regional Marketing Centre	Outreach Centre
Kanpur	1.Bengaluru 2.Bhubaneswar 3.Jabalpur 4.Punjab -Chanalon 5.Ujjain	1.New Delhi 2.Mumbai 3.Kolkata 4.Hyderabad	1.Guwahati

1.3 As per Census 2011, there are 2.68 crore Persons with Disabilities in India (constitute 2.21 percent of the total population). Out of the total population of

Persons with Disabilities, about 1.50 crore are male and 1.18 crore female. These include persons with visual, hearing, speech and loco-motor disabilities; mental illness, mental retardation, multiple disabilities and other disabilities.

Type of Disability and Disabled Population as per census 2011 is as under:-

Type of Disability	**Disabled Population in Lacs***	**%age**
Locomotor	54.37	20.28
Visual	50.32	18.77
Hearing	50.71	18.92
Speech	19.98	7.45
Mentally Impaired & Others	92.72	34.58
Total	**268.10**	**100**

1.4 The Corporation is the only manufacturing Company which manufactures low cost Quality Aids & Assistive devices to meet the needs of economically weaker sections of divyangjans across the country**.** It is the major and sole implementing agency of the following Schemes of the Government:-

(i) Assistance for Disabled Persons for Purchase/Fitting of Aids/Appliances (ADIP), since 1981.

(ii) Assistance for Disabled persons for Purchase/Fitting of Aids/Appliances (ADIP) under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (ADIP-SSA), since 2004.

(iii) Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana (RVY) for the Senior Citizens under BPL categories since its launch in December, 2016**.**

1.5 ALIMCO manufactures a wide range of aids & assistive devices for various categories of disabled persons *viz.*:-

(i) Orthopedically Impaired

(ii) Visually Impaired

(iii) Hearing Impaired

(iv) Intellectual and Developmental Impairment

(v) Senior Citizens

1.6 ALIMCO organizes Mega Distribution Camps, ADIP Camps and ADIP-SSA Camps for distribution of Aids and Assistive Devices to disabled persons under the ADIP Scheme. The Corporation has covered 1,13,685 beneficiaries through 167 ADIP camps covering 26 States/UTs in the year 2017-18. Under ADIP-SSA Scheme, 1033 camps were organized covering 80795 children with special needs in the age group 6-14 years in 2017-18. Under Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana, which was launched in December 2016, 37 distribution camps have been conducted covering around 43795 Senior Citizen.

1.7 During the year 2017-18, the Corporation achieved a turnover of Rs. 226.08 crore (provisional) and earned surplus of Rs. 46.20 crore. The excess of income over expenditure amounting to Rs. 46.20 crore has been carried forward to the Reserve and Surplus Account for utilization and furtherance of objectives of the Corporation.

CHAPTER – II

ORGANIZING OF ADIP CAMPS

2.1 The Committee were informed that ALIMCO organizes Mega Camps, Special Camps and Camps under Sarva-Shiksha Abhiyan for distribution of aids and assistive devices to PwDs. When the Committee desired to know the difference between Mega Camps, Special Camps and Camps under Sarva-Shiksha Abhiyan, the Department in its written reply has stated as under:

> "Primarily, there are two types of camps as approved by the Ministry: -
>
> (a) ADIP Camps for Divyangjan requiring aids and assistive devices irrespective of their age.
> (b) ADIP-SSA Camps for provision of aids and assistive devices to School going Children with Special Needs in the age group of 6-14 years.
>
> The basic difference between above two types of camps lies in the fact that under ADIP Scheme, the cost of aids and assistive devices is 100% subsidized by the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Govt. of India whereas ADIP-SSA Programme under ADIP Scheme, there is a 40:60 cost sharing between Ministry of HRD (Department of Elementary Education) and the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment (Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities) respectively.
>
> As regards Mega Camps/ Special Camps, these are ADIP camps. Special camps are held generally based on requests received from Public Representatives which include Hon'ble Ministers from Central or State Governments, Members of Parliaments, Members of Legislative Assemblies and other dignitaries. In case number of beneficiaries is more than 1000 and the value of aids and assistive devices exceed Rs.1.00 Crore, such camps are termed as Mega camps. However, organization and implementation systems are identical in both categories of camps".

2.2 Regarding the criteria for selection of place for holding these camps in States/UTs/Districts, the Department stated that as a standard procedure, on receipt of communication from the Ministry, ALIMCO approaches District Administration and the concerned Public Representatives on whose requests the camps are conducted, for selection of places for holding such camps. The other important criteria for selection of places are prevalent climate conditions, geographical conditions and density of population of Divyangjan in a particular area. The selection is done by organizing a coordination meeting by involving all stakeholders.

2.3 The Department further informed that these camps are organized not only on a request received from MPs/Local Representatives but also organized on the requests received from District Disability Officials, District Collectors/ Magistrates, Indian Red Cross Society or other reputed Organisations working in the field for welfare of Divyangjan. This is done after getting approval from the Ministry and availability of funds for organizing the camps.

2.4 Further when the Committee asked whether ALIMCO on its own assessment also holds these camps, the Department replied that, ALIMCO holds camps under ADIP HQ activity wherein ALIMCO and its Centres do the assessment besides serving beneficiaries to its HQ and Centres on routine basis and provide them with requisite aids and assistive devices.

2.5 When the Committee desired to know whether local MLAs/MPs are invariably invited to these camps and are also given prior intimation in this regard, the Department stated that Local MPs of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha and MLAs of Assemblies segment falling in the District jurisdiction are invariably invited to these

camps. In case MLAs/MPs make request the Ministry for holding camps in their constituencies, prior intimation is given to them about the dates for holding camps by ALIMCO in consultation with District Collectors.

2.6 The Committee note that ALIMCO organizes Mega Camps, Special Camps and Camps under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan for distribution of aids and assistive devices to PwDs. Mega camps/Special Camps are ADIP Camps and organized on the requests received from Hon'ble Ministers from Central or State Governments, MPs, MLAs and other dignitaries. The Committee further note that if MPs/MLAs make request to the Ministry for holding Camps in their constituencies, prior intimation is given to them about the dates for holding Camps by ALIMCO in consultation with District Collectors while in other cases MPs/MLAs are informed by District Administration. The Committee, however, find that in many cases MPs/MLAs are not aware of holding of ADIP Camps in their areas. In Committee's view, presence of local MP/MLA is not only very essential but also very useful in these camps as they better understand the problems and needs of PwDs in their constituencies. The Committee, therefore, urge the Department that while conducting these camps, the Department must invariably inform the local MP(s) and Local Representatives by intimating them in advance. The Committee also desire that in order to obviate any scope of communication gap or miscommunication, the information regarding holding of these camps be loaded on the web portal of the Department as well as on the website of ALIMCO.

2.7 The Committee found that ALIMCO holds various ADIP Camps for distribution of aids and appliances to Divyangjans all over the Country. When the Committee asked whether Corporation has any system to ensure that all the beneficiaries get income and disability certificates well before holding of Camps to obviate last minutes delays and hassels in distribution of aids and appliances to listed Divyangjans, the Department replied that even though, the Authority for issue of Disability Certificate, Income Certificate and Aadhaar rests with the State/District Administration, before holding assessment camps, advance request is sent to District Administration for making arrangements for on the spot issue of these Certificates.

2.8 The Committee observed that even after simplifying and streamlining of procedures, cases of harassment of Divyangjans in getting income and disability Certificates appearing in the media very often due to tardy implementation of guidelines. When the Committee asked how ALIMCO/Department proposes to address such problems and prevent their recurrence, the Department stated that it is brought to the kind attention of the Committee that issuance of certificate of disability is the primary responsibility of the States/UTs. As per the repealed PwD Act, 1995, certificate of disability was issued to persons with disability having disability 40% or more whereas the Census, 2011 data does not necessarily reflect the number of persons with disabilities having disabilities 40% or more which is the primary cause of mismatch of actual certificate of disability issued and the Census figures. However, with a view to impressing upon the States/UTs to issue certificates to all the PwDs in their States/UTs, the issue was being raised in annual conferences of the State Ministers/Secretaries. It is further stated that Chief Commissioner of

Persons with Disabilities is continuously monitoring the progress regarding grant of certificate of disability with the State Governments.

2.9 As regards, appointment of Chief Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities (CCPD) in the States is concerned, the Department informed that keeping in view the mandate of the RPwD Act, 2016, the States/UTs have been advised to consider appointing independent State Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities vide letter from Secretary, DEPwD dated 20.03.2018. The office of CCPD has also been requested to continuously monitor the issue of appointment of independent State Commissioners.

2.10 Regarding issuance of disability certificate to PwDs, the Department informed that the Government has already taken steps for implementation of the Unique Disability ID project which envisages issuance of certificate of disability as well as UDID card to each person with disability on campaign mode. So far the project has been implemented in 21 States/UTs namely Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Chandigarh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Odisha, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Tripura and Uttar Pradesh. The project will be rolled out to all the States/UTs covering all the Districts by December, 2018.

2.11 The Committee note that Department has started the Unique Disability ID project for issuance of Disability Certificate and UDID card to each eligible Person with Disability. The Committee find that the project is presently being implemented in 21 States/UTs and will be rolled out to all States/UTs by December, 2018. The Department has, however, not given any information as to how many Divyangjans have so far been issued UDID card. Keeping in view that there are 2.68 crore Divyangjans in the Country and issuing UDID Cards to each and every PwD in the country is an uphill task. The Committee, therefore, exhort the Department to implement the UDID project more vigorously and complete it within a definite time schedule.

The Committee are, dismayed to note that in spite of the mandate of RPwD Act, 2016 and repeated requests by the Department, many States/UTs have still not appointed independent State Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities in their respective States/UTs. The Committee do not comprehend how the Department is addressing the issue and obviating the difficulties being faced by PwDs in those States where neither UDID Cards have been issued to them nor State Commissioner for PwDs appointed. As appointment of independent State Disability Commissioner is mandatory for proper monitoring of the progress of issuing disability certificates and grievance redressal of PwDs, the Committee, recommend that the Department must now take stern action and issue fresh directions to erring States/UTs to appoint State Commissioner for PwDs and notify Rules under the RPwD Act without any further delay. The Committee may be apprised of the progress so made and the number of PwDs issued UDID Cards under the project.

2.12 When the Committee desired to know the number of ADIP Camps organized by ALIMCO, expenditure incurred and number of beneficiaries covered for distribution of aids and appliances under the ADIP Scheme for the year 2014-15, 2015-16, 2016-17 and 2017-18, the Department stated that 5439 camps have been organized under ADIP scheme by ALIMCO during the last four years in which aids and assistive devices costing Rs.438.63 crore were distributed to 8,14,282 beneficiaries. Further Department furnished the following statement showing State/UT-wise details of expenditure incurred and number of beneficiaries covered under ADIP Scheme for the year 2014-15 to 2017-18:

State/UT-wise details of number of camps held, expenditure incurred and number of beneficiaries covered under ADIP Scheme by ALIMCO during the Year 2014-15 to 2017-18

Sl No.	State/Uts	2014-15			2015-16			2016-17			2017-18			Total Last Four Years		
		No. of Camps	No. of Benefi-ciaries	Expenditure (Rs. in lakh)	No. of Camps	No. of Benefi-ciaries	Expenditure (Rs. in lakh)	No. of Camps	No. of Benefi-ciaries	Expenditure (Rs. in lakh)	No. of Camps	No. of Benefi-ciaries	Expenditure (Rs. in lakh)	No. of Camps	No. of Benefi-ciaries	Expen-diture (Rs. in lakh)
1	Andhra Pradesh	38	17547	783.01	24	6882	343.36	11	2385	548.01	10	3749	165.85	83	30563	1840.23
2	A&N Island	10	450	27.3	0	0	0	2	91	3.29	3	144	4.6	15	685	35.19
3	Arunachal Pradesh	2	60	5.22	1	127	7.92	2	315	7.66	1	423	27.46	6	925	48.26
4	Assam	169	15666	396.06	147	9769	542.59	53	12398	448.89	37	18196	751.16	406	56029	2138.70
5	Bihar	52	2900	225.45	0	0	0	8	1536	164.79	50	6800	357.7	110	11236	747.94
6	Chandigarh	1	91	2.89	0	0	0	2	223	22.61	2	14	0.75	5	328	26.25
7	Chhattisgarh	62	3487	403.72	58	4039	395.93	45	3945	290.14	16	1531	30.58	181	13002	1120.37
8	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	2	113	4.32	1	58	0.95	2	70	2.13	2	85	2.7	7	326	10
9	Daman & Diu	2	95	4	1	35	2.46	2	82	3.08	2	49	2.06	7	261	12
10	Delhi	12	1219	36.86	15	3666	242.61	43	6605	445.36	16	2149	241.48	86	13639	966.31
11	Goa	3	143	7.01	3	137	8.96	3	166	3.76	3	823	11.85	12	1269	31.58
12	Gujarat	1	971	73.05	0	0	0	5	22625	1223.00	131	43453	2018.50	137	67049	3314.55
13	Haryana	28	8052	417.14	15	8781	448.02	24	12440	783.23	38	7569	369.22	105	36842	2017.61
14	Himachal Pradesh	0	0	0	1	539	15.25	1	110	7.56	1	569	24.61	3	1218	47.42
15	Jammu & Kashmir	14	4529	80.09	7	776	41.54	20	3151	207.53	26	2958	99.4	67	11414	428.56
16	Jharkhand	263	10890	366.82	4	238	12.79	3	801	51.94	0	0	0	270	11929	431.55
17	Karnataka	11	1510	134.98	15	3041	293.64	19	1891	175.02	18	2348	117.13	63	8790	720.77

18	Kerala	2	288	25.54	7	1721	226.35	7	2799	201	89	6127	246.38	105	10935	699.27
19	Lakshdweep	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1787	86.78	1	1787	86.78
20	Madhya Pradesh	113	14159	700.93	176	28964	1712.7	131	15007	1487.88	114	12500	866.9	534	70630	4768.41
21	Maharastra	34	11457	716.6	317	23232	1388.63	98	15348	995.21	47	14158	494.11	496	64195	3594.55
22	Manipur	5	698	56.33	2	284	26.75	2	6721	495.82	11	2123	136.67	20	9826	715.57
23	Meghalaya	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	1317	89.03	0	0	0	9	1317	89.03
24	Mizoram	6	304	25.92	0	0	0	3	256	18.22	0	0	0	9	560	44.14
25	Nagaland	2	268	23.06	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	268	23.06
26	Odisha	72	6250	237.33	149	10088	431.13	155	8264	500.31	88	4201	166.94	464	28803	1335.71
27	Pondicherry	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	175	8.93	0	0	0	2	175	8.93
28	Punjab	12	3429	218.72	107	21391	794.53	32	9805	505.39	84	6337	232.06	235	40962	1750.70
29	Rajasthan	33	5468	196.1	41	9002	398.73	37	8900	360.3	13	4138	356.72	124	27508	1311.85
30	Sikkim	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
31	Tamilnadu	9	6045	225.36	41	6661	270.03	61	7098	233.82	87	7167	361.86	198	26971	1091.07
32	Telengana	2	709	37.49	4	1067	242.65	16	4481	184.75	24	4443	261.12	46	10700	726.01
33	Tripura	0	0	0	48	1304	56.63	23	3022	190.16	1	1364	92.33	72	5690	339.12
34	Uttar Pradesh	374	53291	2692.13	309	43553	2643.41	177	69903	3847.08	156	29407	1622.58	1016	196154	10805.20
35	Uttarakhand	19	267	20.44	21	2987	48.96	1	397	24.77	21	747	47.06	62	4398	141.23
36	West Bengal	141	7663	256.75	183	9818	862.09	99	21296	787.76	108	9121	488.38	531	47898	2394.98
Total		**1494**	**178019**	8400.62	**1697**	**198160**	**11458.61**	**1098**	**243623**	**14318.43**	**1200**	**194480**	**9684.94**	**5489**	**814282**	**43862.60**

2.13 The above statement shows that North-Eastern States of Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland and Sikkim, the State of Jharkhand and UT of Puducherry have not held any camp activity under the ADIP scheme during the year 2017-18. As a matter of fact, during four years period of 2014-15 to 2017-18, Meghalaya held only 9 camps in 2016-17 and provided aids and appliances to 1317 divyangjans. Nagaland held only 2 camps in 2014-15 with 268 beneficiaries and has not reported any camp activity after that. No ADIP camp was organized in Sikkim at all during the above period.

2.14 The Committee were informed that ALIMCO is the sole implementing agency of the GOI's Scheme "Assistance to Disabled Persons for purchase/Fitting of Aids/Appliances (ADIP) under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (ADIP-SSA)", since 2004. When the Committee asked about States/UTs wise ADIP-SSA Camps organized by ALIMCO, expenditure incurred and number of male and female children covered under the Scheme for the last 3 years, the Department informed that 3126 camps have been conducted by the Corporation under ADIP-SSA Programme during the last three years in which a total of 2,34,113 beneficiaries (1,51,174 male + 82,939 female) were provided with aids and assistive devices costing of Rs. 101.48 crore.

2.15 In the above context, the Department furnished the following statement showing States/UTs-wise ADIP-SSA camps organized by ALIMCO, expenditure incurred and number of beneficiaries covered viz. male and female from 2015-16 to 2017-18:

State/UT-wise details of ADIP- SSA Camps organized by ALIMCO, expenditure incurred and number of male and female children covered under ADIP-SSA during the last three years (2015-16 to 2017-18)

Sl No.	State/Uts	2015-2016			2016-17			2017-18 (Provisional)			Total for the Last Three Years		
		No. of camps	No. of beneficiaries	Expenditure (Rs. in lakh)	No. of camps	No. of beneficiaries	Expenditure (Rs. in lakh)	No. of camps	No. of beneficiaries	Expenditure (Rs. in lakh)	No. of camps	No. of beneficiaries	Expenditure (Rs. in lakh)
1	Andhra Pradesh	12	1220	51.40	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	1220	51.40
2	A&N Island	0	0	0	2	91	3.29	3	144	4.6	5	235	7.89
3	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
4	Asom	125	4420	182.11	36	2195	69.42	27	3597	169.28	188	10212	420.81
5	Bihar	0	0	0	0	0	0	46	2753	112.07	46	2753	112.07
6	Chandigarh	0	0	0	1	33	2.12	2	14	0.75	3	47	2.87
7	Chhattisgarh	52	1767	153.53	40	2512	116.19	14	945	16.17	106	5224	285.89
8	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	1	58	0.95	2	70	2.13	2	85	2.7	5	213	5.78
9	Daman & Diu	1	35	2.46	2	82	3.08	2	49	2.06	5	166	7.60
10	Delhi	12	1000	45.61	36	659	51.89	12	789	26.41	60	2448	123.91
11	Goa	3	137	8.96	3	166	3.76	2	175	5.87	8	478	18.59
12	Gujarat	0	0	0	0	0	0	123	15039	742.81	123	15039	742.81
13	Haryana	6	957	38.20	13	2682	99.25	31	3699	140.48	50	7338	277.93

14	Himachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
15	Jammu & Kashmir	7	776	41.54	20	3151	207.53	25	2859	94.04	52	6786	343.11
16	Jharkhand	0	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
17	Karnataka	3	283	11.03	8	573	23.59	12	747	24.26	23	1603	58.88
18	Kerala	0	0	0	0	0	0	74	3019	113.85	74	3019	113.85
19	Lakshdweep	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
20	Madhya Pradesh	135	9177	349.77	77	3557	130.87	98	3530	138.05	310	16264	618.69
21	Maharastra	309	8628	563.64	78	8499	517.58	39	4386	158.28	426	21513	1239.50
22	Manipur	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	533	28.77	9	533	28.77
23	Meghalaya	0	0	0	5	851	57.05	0	0	0	5	851	57.05
24	Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
25	Nagaland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
26	Orissa	142	9930	418.90	133	5401	358.28	77	3919	147.05	352	19250	924.23
27	Pondicherry	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
28	Punjab	94	15886	548.30	18	3075	138.17	81	6136	220.03	193	25097	906.50
29	Rajasthan	33	7192	235.39	33	6281	186.79	8	1150	40.6	74	14623	462.78
30	Sikkim	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
31	Tamilnadu	40	6618	267.32	51	6446	220.94	83	6476	332.51	174	19540	820.77
32	Telengana	0	0	0	9	1917	92.79	21	2967	144.81	30	4884	237.60
33	Tripura	46	1189	42.11	20	1263	102	0	0	0	66	2452	144.11
34	Uttar Pradesh	160	6179	384.66	123	18070	437.08	131	13251	532.68	414	37500	1354.42
35	Uttarakhand	18	1641	44.60	0	0	0	16	309	13.68	34	1950	58.28
36	West Bengal	111	2833	174.96	73	5818	217.84	95	4224	229.03	279	12875	621.83
Total		**1310**	**79926**	**3565.44**	**783**	**73392**	**3041.64**	**1033**	**80795**	**3440.84**	**3126**	**234113**	**10047.92**

Detials of male and female children covered under ADIP-SSA			
Financial Year	**No. of Children**	**Male**	**Female**
2015-16	79926	51200	28726
2016-17	73392	47110	26282
2017-18 (Provisional)	80795	52864	27931
Total	**234113**	**151174**	**82939**

2.16 The above statement reveals that no ADIP-SSA camp activity is held in the North-Eastern States of Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram, Nagaland and Sikkim during the year 2015-16, 2016-17 and 2017-18. Meghalaya hold only 5 ADIP-SSA camps in 2016-17 covering 851 beneficiaries while in Andhra Pradesh ADIP-SSA camps were organized only in the year 2015-16. The State of Jharkhand, Himachal Pradesh and UTs of Lakshadweep and Puducherry did not organized any ADIP-SSA camps during the last three years.

2.17 The Committee note that ALIMCO is the sole implementing agency of the Schemes 'Assistance for Disabled Persons (ADIP)', since 1981 and 'Assistance for Disabled Persons under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (ADIP-SSA)' since 2004 and manufacturer of low cost quality aids and assistive devices to meet the needs of economically weaker Divyangjans and school going children with special needs in the age group of 6-14 years. The Department has furnished the States/UTs- wise details of ADIP and ADIP-SSA camps organized by ALIMCO, number of beneficiaries and expenditure incurred for the last 3 years. The Committee find that no ADIP-SSA camp activity happened in the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram, Sikkim, Nagaland, Jharkhand, Himachal Pradesh and UTs of Lakshadweep and Puducherry during 2015-16 to 2017-18. The Committee also find that from the year 2015 to 2018 only 234113 number of disabled children have been covered under ADIP-SSA camps. The Committee feel that if need of a disabled child is addressed at an early age or early stage of disability, the potential for overall development will be enhanced in PwD child. The early interventions for providing need based equipments to disabled children through ADIP-SSA camps play an important role in this matter. The Committee desire the Department to take this issue energetically with concerned States/UTs and address the problems due to which ADIP and ADIP-SSA Camps in those States/UTs are held up. The Committee also desire that more camps under ADIP-SSA should be organized to cover more disabled children.

2.18 The Committee found that motorized tricycle is very useful for orthopedically impaired Divyangjans as it makes them self–reliant by providing self employment opportunities. The actual cost of ALIMCOs motorized tricycle is Rs. 37,000 and subsidy is Rs. 25,000. The difference of Rs. 12,000 is met either by the beneficiary or by convergence with MP/MLA fund/CSR funding. The Committee in their earlier reports have repeatedly recommended that the entire cost of motorized tricycle (of Rs. 37,000) should be borne by the Department and the poor and needy handicapped persons could not be left to the mercy of MP or MLA fund as getting funds from these sources is a difficult task for any handicapped person. The Committee also desired that the difference of Rs 12,000 may be adjusted by the ALIMCO under its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) fund.

2.19 In this context, during the evidence, CMD, ALIMCO deposed before the Committee that in the first place, the motorized tricycle is given to only those Divyangjans who have 80% or more disability and are not able to walk at all. Secondly, ADIP being a Government Scheme get all the funds from Government and as per guidelines only 20% of the budget can be spent on high end devices to ensure that sufficient funds are left for non-high end devices. Thirdly, as the speed of motorized tricycle is 22 kms. per hour and every Divyangjan is not able to control it. Therefore, before giving motorized tricycle to anyone it is ensured that he/she will be able to control it. As far as funding of non subsidized portion of the cost of motorized tricycle is concerned, as per the guidelines of the Scheme, ALIMCO can give subsidy for Motorized Tricycle upto Rs. 25,000 and balance of Rs. 12,000 could be met from MP/MLA funds.

2.20 The Committee find that Motorized Tricycle is provided to only those Divyangjans who have 80% or more disability and are not able to walk at all. The Committee are informed that the actual cost of ALIMCO's Motorized Tricycle is Rs. 37,000 but as per the guidelines under ADIP Scheme, ALIMCO can give high-end devices only upto Rs. 25,000 and the difference of Rs. 12,000 is met either by the beneficiary or by convergence with MP/MLA fund/CSR funding. The Committee in their earlier Reports had repeatedly recommended that the entire cost of tricycle must be borne by the Department so that the needy and poor Divyangjans are not left to the mercy of MP/MLA fund. Considering the fact that many of PwDs do not have access to MPs/MLAs and it is very difficult for a handicapped person to arrange funds from these sources, the Committee, urge the Department to revise the guidelines of ADIP Scheme to raise the upper limit of subsidy of high-end devices so that the entire cost of the motorized tricycle is covered under the Scheme and the poor PwDs do not have to run here and there for arranging funds. The Committee also desire that as an interim measure, the Department and ALIMCO must meet the entire cost of motorized tricycle till revision of the guidelines.

Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana (RVY)

2.21 The Committee were informed that a new scheme of Govt. of India known as "Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojna (RVY)" to provide Aid & Assisted Living Devices to Senior Citizens (above age of 60 years) belonging to BPL Category, was launched in year 2016. ALIMCO has been nominated as the sole implementing agency under the Scheme. When the Committee desired to know aids and assistive devices provided to senior citizens under the Scheme and whether there is any income criteria or Senior citizens get assistive devices on the basis of BPL card under RVY, the Department in their written reply submitted as under,

> "Under Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana (RVY), the following Aids and Assisted Living Devices like Walking sticks, Elbow crutches, Walkers/Crutches, Tripods/Quadpods, Hearing Aids, Wheelchairs, Artificial Dentures and Spectacles are provided to eligible elderly beneficiaries, depending upon their physical impairment. The beneficiaries of the scheme includes Senior Citizens of BPL category suffering from any of the age related infirmities as loss of vision, hearing impairment, loss of teeth and loco-motor disability. The identified beneficiaries get aids and assisted living devices by producing a certificate from the District Authority for eligibility or a BPL ration card or proof of receiving Old Age Pension under Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme and the National Social Assistance Programme or any other Pension Scheme of the State/UT Government for Senior Citizens belonging to BPL Category".

2.22 When the Committee desired to know States/UTs wise details of distribution camps conducted by ALIMCO and number of senior citizens covered since inception of the scheme, the Department stated that so far 40 camps have been organized under Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana as on 10.07.2018 since its introduction in April,

2017. A total of 44253 Senior Citizens have been provided with aids and assistive living devices at a cost of Rs. 23.55 crore by the Corporation.

2.23 The Department furnished the following statement showing States/UTs-wise distribution camps organised by ALIMCO and number of Senior Citizens covered since inception of the Scheme:

State/Ut-wise details of distribution camps completed by ALIMCO and number of Senior Citizens covered during 2017-18 and 2018-19 (up to 10.07.2018)

S.No	State/UT	Place of Camp	Number of Senior Citizens covered (2017-18)	Number of Senior Citizens covered (2018-19)
1	Andhra Pradesh	Nellore	1843	–
		Vishakapatnam	877	–
2	Madhya Pradesh	Ujjain	2145	–
		Gwalior	1835	–
		Vidisha	–	4600
3	Maharashtra	Nagpur	1266	–
		Dhule	1860	–
4	Gujarat	Vadodara	2372	–
5	Goa	South Goa	1407	–
		North Goa	1000	–
6	Puducherry	Olkara	738	–
		Karaikal	791	–
7	Kerala	Ernakulam (Kochi)	687	–
8	Rajasthan	Jhalawar	4210	–
9	Delhi	West Delhi#	781	–
		Karolbagh	699	–
		Chandni Chowk		–
10	Himanchal Pradesh	Hamirpur	76	–
11	Haryana	Karnal	1611	–
12	Uttarakhand	Almora	1100	–
		Udham singh Nagar	–	98
		Haridwar	–	416

13	Uttar Pradesh	Pilibhit	1634	-
		Gorakhpur	2446	-
		Fatehpur	-	654
		Lucknow	-	388
		Ghazipur	-	1095
14	Bihar	Bhojpur Ara	1665	-
		Buxar	-	261
15	Meghalaya	Ri Bhoi	1027	-
		East Jaintia Hills	791	-
16	Tripura	Unakoti	795	-
17	Jharkhand	Gumla	21	-
18	Chattishgarh	Bijapur	-	31
19	Punjab	Mansa	-	201
		Firozpur	-	192
20	Sikkim	South sikkim/Namchi	-	1020
		East Sikkim/Gangtok	-	794
21	Arunachal Pradesh	East Siang/Pasighat	-	384
22	Telangana	Mahbubnagar	-	442
	Total	**40**	**33677**	**10576**

Total camps	**40**
Total No. of Senior Citizens covered	**44253**

2.24 The Committee find that to get aids and assistive living devices under the Rashtriya Vayoshree Yojana (RVY), a senior citizen needs to produce a certificate from the District Authority for eligibility or a BPL ration card or proof of receiving old age pension under Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme and the National Social Assistance Programme or any other Pension Scheme implemented by the State/UT Governments for senior citizens belonging to BPL category. The Committee strongly feel that India has a vast reservoir of senior citizens and a large part of it belongs to lower middle and middle class. This segment of elderly population has very limited financial resources and majority of them do not get pension under any pension scheme/programme. The Committee feel that it is very essential to bring this segment under the ambit of Rashtriya Vayoshree Yojana. The Committee, therefore, desire the Department that the eligibility criteria based on BPL category under the scheme must be replaced with the criteria based on income as fixed under ADIP Scheme i.e. monthly income of a beneficiary from all sources does not exceed Rs. 15,000 per month. The Committee also desire that keeping in view the overall increase in the cost of living and inflation, the eligibility income criteria must be revised from Rs. 15,000 to Rs. 20,000 per month atleast for the beneficiaries under the Scheme.

CHAPTER – III

MODERNIZATION OF ALIMCO

3.1 The Committee were informed that in the Year 2013, ALIMCO felt the need to upgrade, restructure and modernize its facilities as most of the ALIMCO's infrastructural resources such as plant/machinery, civil construction, electrical work, manufacturing technology product profile of the Corporation have completed their life cycle or have become obsolete, in addition to inadequate and inappropriate human resources. Up-gradation of product as well as modern technology was required to create a more inclusive society for persons with disabilities to enable them to enjoy equal opportunities to lead an empowered life with dignity.

3.2 Further, Department furnished the following statement showing enhancement in the Production Capacity of Major Products after implementation of Modernization plan of ALIMCO:-

Outcome of Modernization								
Components	**Year 1 (2017-18)**		**Year 2 (2018-19)**		**Year 3 (2019-20)**		**Year 4 (2020-21)**	
	Physical	**Financial**	**Physical**	**Financial**	**Physical**	**Financial**	**Physical**	**Financial**
	No.	**Rs Lacs**	**No.**	**Rs Lacs**	**No.**	**Rs Lacs**	**No.**	**Rs Lacs**
Hearing Aid	122500	4079.25	134750	4487.18	148225	4935.89	163000	5427.90
Wheel Chair	49500	3435.30	54450	3778.83	59900	4157.06	65900	4573.46
Tricycle	89500	8887.35	98450	9776.09	108300	10754.2	119000	11816.70
Crutches & Walking Aids	115000	867.10	126500	953.81	139000	1048.06	153000	1153.62

Prosthesis & Orthosis	85007	1016.04	93508	1117.65	102870	1229.56	113150	1352.55
Others	4610	5.35	5071	5.88	5580	6.47	6150	7.13
Total	**466117**	**18290.39**	**512729**	**20119.44**	**563875**	**22131.24**	**620200**	**24331.36**

3.3 The Committee found that the modernization plan of the Corporation has been approved by the Standing Finance Committee (SFC) to the tune of Rs. 338.04 crore on 21.03.2018 and the project is likely to be completed by March, 2020. When the Committee desired to know the efforts made by ALIMCO/Department to complete the modernization project in the stipulated timeframe of 37 months, the Department in its written reply stated as under:-

> "The Ministry has already approved the Modernisation Plan of the Corporation as per which the Central Government will be giving grants-in-aid of Rs.200 crore out of total Modernisation Plan of Rs.338.04 crore. The process of Modernization in respect of up-gradation of products, process, technology and infrastructure has been initiated by ALIMCO. The break-up of expenditure is as under:
>
> (i) Civil Infrastructure : INR 122.99 Crore
>
> (ii) Plant & Machinery : INR 173.52 Crore
>
> (iii) For ARFCs, JVs & TOTs, IT etc. : INR 41.53 Crore.
>
> In order to execute the project, Corporation, has engaged M/s Engineering Projects (India) Ltd, New Delhi (A Government of India CPSU) as its "Civil Consultant" for "Conceptualizing/designing and construction of modernized and technologically advanced work centres (approximate seven work centres), other buildings for offices and state-of-the-art research and development centre at ALIMCO Kanpur. Modernization plan also includes

construction of Auxiliary Production unit at Ujjain and other civil renovation works required at ALIMCO HQ, AAPCs, RMCs and AOC etc.

Corporation has also engaged M/s Tirupati Engineers, Surat as its “Industrial Consultant-Plant, Machinery & Automation Technology” for in-depth study of its existing plant & machinery set-up, proposing and drawing detailed road map including specifications of Plant & Machineries to be procured & devising elaborate action plan for the modernization of existing workshop. It also involves creation of new workshops as contained in the Detailed Project Report (DPR) and monitoring of execution till successful completion of the Project.

Project is regularly being monitored by a Committee constituted in the Corporation to complete ongoing Modernization Project in stipulated time frame of 37 months”.

3.4 The Committee are satisfied to note that ALIMCO has embarked upon the process of modernization and upgradation of its products, technology and infrastructure as the present machinery and technology etc. have become obsolete. The modernization plan of the Corporation has been approved by the Standing Finance Committee (SFC) to the tune of Rs. 338.04 crore on 21.03.2018 and the project is likely to be completed by March, 2020. The Committee feel that in present modern and scientific scenario, the technology and manufacturing products profile keep changing very swiftly and to keep pace with them, it is imperative that modernization should be a continuous process and technology changes are adopted at the earliest without waiting for completion of the life cycle of plant and machinery etc. The Committee, therefore, desire that ALIMCO should keep some portion of its profit, under a separate head, and earmark it for meeting the cost of periodic upgradation and modernisation so that technology upgradation does not stuck due to lack of funds. As ALIMCO is involved in production of various assistive devices to help approximately 1.5 lakh disabled persons in their day-to-day functioning, the Committee also desire the Department to ensure that the process of modernization of ALIMCO be completed by March, 2020 positively without closing the operations of the Corporation completely.

CHAPTER – IV

INDIGENOUS PRODUCTION OF NEW PRODUCTS

4.1 The Committee found that ALIMCO manufactures a wide range of assistive devices for Orthopedically, Visually, Hearing and Mentally Impaired, under one roof in mass scale and majority of products bear ISI Marking. ALIMCO took up diversification of product range to cover all categories of persons with disabilities. Quite a few new products through in-house R&D have been incorporated like Lumbo Sacral (L.S.) Belt, Collar Cervical Flexo PU, Joystick Operated Wheelchair Modified, Cane Walking Tetrapod/Tripod Modified and Adjustable Axilla Crutches.

4.2 The Department further informed that apart from above, the Corporation has also joined hands with National Institutes working under the same Ministry to introduce new products. These include Smart Phone & Smart Cane for visually impaired in consultation with National Institute for Empowerment of Persons with Visual Disabilities (NIEPVD), Dehradun, Digital Hearing Aid in consultation with Ali Yavar Jung National Institute of Speech and Hearing Disabilities (AYJNISHD), Mumbai and MSIED TLM Kit for mentally impaired in association with National Institute for the Empowerment of Persons with Intellectual Disabilities (NIEPID), Secunderabad.

4.3 Further in this context, the Department stated that the Corporation is in the process of seeking Transfer of Technology with the Department of Science & Technology for production of aids and assistive devices indigenously developed by their Institutes. The meeting with the Officials of the Department of Science & Technology was held in April, 2018 under the Chairpersonship of Secretary, Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan).

Further, the Officials of the Department of Science & Technology are going to meet shortly to display all the available prototypes of various aids and assistive devices indigenously developed by their Institutes. The Technical Team of the Corporation will assess the prototypes developed indigenously by the Department of Science & Technology and if the same are found suitable, necessary action will be taken for their production for the benefits of Divyangjans after the approval of Board of Directors of ALIMCO.

4.4 When the Committee desired to know the steps being taken by ALIMCO to create awareness among PwDs for distribution and proper use of new products, the Department submitted as under:-

> "ALIMCO undertakes various measures to promote awareness among Divyangjan at the time of Assessment and Distribution Camps being conducted on PAN India basis under ADIP Scheme and ADIP-SSA Programme. ALIMCO Executives and Rehabilitation Experts explain about the usage of devices during these camps to beneficiaries. In the recent years, the Corporation has also taken initiatives for involvement of Corporate Bodies to come forward and garner support for the empowerment of PwDs through their CSR funding as stipulated in Section 35 of the Companies Act, 2013".

4.5 When the Committee asked how does ALIMCO ensure the satisfaction level of beneficiaries using these new products, the Department in their reply stated as under:-

> "The Corporation has a system of getting continuous feedback from beneficiaries and incorporates necessary changes to ensure satisfaction of end user (Divyangjan) provided with aids and assistive devices. Besides, there is a warranty clause for free of cost replacement of appliances reported defective or damaged. The beneficiaries may contact ALIMCO and its Regional Centres all across the country by simply writing to them or by making

a call on toll free No. 1800 180 5129 and get replacement within a short span of time. The system has been working satisfactorily and there are no complaints in this regard. The Corporation also entertains and takes remedial action on the complaints, if any, received through District Disability Officials and the Local Public Representatives and addresses the same as mentioned above.

The Corporation has carried out a 3rd Party Independent Survey to assess the impact and efficacy of the system of distribution of aid and assistive devices undertaken by the Corporation in the financial year 2015-16. The Study has been conducted by National Productivity Council, an autonomous body under the Ministry of Commerce & Industry and they have found more than 81% satisfied beneficiaries who have rated ALIMCO's products to be very useful for supporting their disability condition".

4.6 When the Committee desired to know the steps being taken by the National Institutes to give publicity of the new products and to generate awareness among PwDs specifically in remote areas and North-Eastern States, the Department in their written reply stated as under:-

"Under the provisions of ADIP Scheme, for providing modern assistive devices for all categories of PwDs both physical and mental and multiple disabilities impaired groups, the items will be decided by an Expert Committee constituted in the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan) with the approval of Minister for Social Justice & Empowerment. In the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 (RPwD) Act, 2016, the types of disabilities have been revised from existing seven to twenty-one. Accordingly, the Department has constituted six Core Groups headed by Directors of National Institutes for listing out aids and assistive devices for all twenty-one disabilities included in the RPwD Act. 2016 for distribution under ADIP Scheme. The Expert Committee under the Chairpersonship of Secretary (DEPwD) will examine the report of each Core Group for listing out aids and

assistive devices and approved aids and assistive devices will be included in the ADIP Scheme".

4.7 When the Committee enquired about the new products which have actually been launched and are being distributed to beneficiaries under ADIP Scheme, the Department in their reply stated that the following major items have been developed in the recent past through in-house Research & Development activity and are being distributed under ADIP Scheme: -

(a) Battery Operated Motorised Wheelchair

(b) Joystick Controlled Battery Operated Wheelchair

(c) Detachable Tricycle specially developed for North East States

(d) C.P. Wheelchair for Cerebral Palsy Divyangjan

The following additional devices have also been developed for Senior Citizens:-

(a) Walker Foldable (MS)

(b) Lumbo Sacral (LS) Belt (Large)

(c) Collar Cervical Flexo PU (Large)

(d) Tripod

(e) Tetrapod

4.8 The Committee were informed that the High-End Prosthesis products are being manufactured by ALIMCO indigenously and full-fledged production of Below Knee and Above Knee have been started from January, 2018. When the Committee desired to know whether these products are quality-wise at par and comparable in efficiency with the products earlier being imported from Ottobock, Germany, the Department stated that the two types of High-end prosthetics (above knee and below

knee) kits being manufactured by ALIMCO are same as per the design of Ottobock, (India) approved under Transfer of Technology Agreement with them. The indigenously manufactured products at ALIMCO Plant, Kanpur are being subjected to quality parameters as per standard norms of Ottobock.

4.9 In regard to quality standards and ISI marking to the products manufactured by ALIMCO, the Committee found that Bureau of Indian Standards has granted (Indian Standard Institute) ISI Marking License to Behind the Ear Hearing Aids in 2016. The Corporation holds licenses by BIS for ISI marking on 17 categories of products and all licenses are renewed on yearly basis. To enhance the product quality, Corporation started using ISI marked material by revising the specifications and drawings wherever applicable. Apart from above, the Corporation had awarded Social Impact Study of aids and appliances provided by ALIMCO under ADIP Scheme to National Productivity Council (NPC).

4.10 The Committee found that out of 35 categories of products manufactured by ALIMCO, only 17 has got ISI marking. When the Committee asked about the reasons for 18 categories of products which are not getting ISI marking, the Department in their written reply stated as under:-

> "The Corporation has obtained ISI Certification for 17 products till 2015. With the introduction of Digital Behind the Ear Hearing Aid in place of Body Level Hearing Aid, one more BIS Certification (BIS Standard 16127) has been obtained in the year 2016. Thus, the Corporation has 18 BIS (ISI marking) Certifications for its products. The need for ISI Certification is primarily for products forming large volume of production and sales. There are certain products continuing in the product profile of the Corporation from very long time in the past which are specific in nature and not included in the list of general list of products manufactured by the Industry and as such, no BIS standards are laid down. In the past, the Corporation has surrendered two ISI

Certifications for obsolescent/ obsolete items (Stretcher and Anterior Spinal Hyper-extension- ASH), due to diminishing demands over the years".

4.11 When the Committee desired about the efforts being made by the Corporation to get ISI approval for these products, the Department in their reply stated that ALIMCO is alive to advancement of technology and adoption of the same in its range of products and taking necessary steps to obtain latest Certifications as may be required for assuring quality standards as and when required. For example, the Corporation has recently renewed BIS license for conventional Tricycle after redesigning and improving manufacturing to meet latest confirmation to Standards.

4.12 On the same issue, the CMD, ALIMCO during the evidence also deposed before the Committee that quality parameters are mentioned in BIS standard and if we fulfil those parameters only then ALIMCO will get the BIS certificate and manufacture aids and appliances on the basis of those parameters.

4.13 The Committee find that in the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (RPwD) Act, 2016 the type of disabilities have been revised from existing seven to twenty-one. Accordingly, ALIMCO look up diversification of products range to cover all categories of PwDs and have developed few new products through in-house R&D and constituted six core groups headed by Directors of National Institutes for listing out aids and assistive devices for distribution. The Committee also find that out of newly developed products, only four have been introduced for distribution under ADIP Scheme and five for distribution among senior citizens. Keeping in view the large number of PwDs and senior citizens in the country, the Committee desire the ALIMCO to speed up the process of including new products to the list of aids and assistive devices to be distributed under ADIP, ADIP-SSA Scheme and Rashtriya Vayoshree Yojana and make concerted efforts for creating awareness among PwDs/senior citizens for proper use of newly launched products. The Committee find that ALIMCO has started indigenous production of High-End Prosthesis products including Below Knee and Above Knee prosthesis which were earlier being imported from ottoback, Germany and these products quality-wise are the best. The Committee appreciate such a commendable step taken by ALIMCO and hope the Corporation to strengthen its Research and Development (R&D) wing to develop and roll out more and more indigenous products for the welfare of PwDs.

CHAPTER – V

MANPOWER STRENGTH

5.1 The Committee found that at present 264 regular employees and 430 contractual employees are working in ALIMCO**.** The Corporation, through open tender, empanels a manpower providing Agency and this Agency provides the contractual manpower. Presently, there are 32 female, 13 Divyangjan and 136 OBC contractual employees.

5.2 When the Committee desired to know the initial contract period for a contractual employee, renewal of its contract and the maximum period for which he/she is retained, the Department in their reply submitted as under:-

> "Trained P&O, Audiologist, CNC Operator, IT Professionals, CSR & Vayoshree Yojna Consultants etc. are engaged directly by the Corporation on contractual basis for one year only. The Corporation through open tender, empanels a manpower providing Agency and this Agency provides the contractual manpower for Un-skilled, semi-skilled and skilled category employees. The contract period of contractual employees engaged by Corporation can be extended for one more year in case of need and based on their past performance. There is no maximum time period stipulated for retention and is purely subject to requirement of the Corporation".

5.3 Further the Department has furnished statement indicating manpower strength of the Corporation during the last six years:-

No.	Financial Year	Executives	Workmen	Total
1.	2012-13	83	261	344
2.	2013-14	86	236	322
3.	2014-15	100	214	314
4.	2015-16	105	196	301
5.	2016-17	112	188	300
6.	2017-18	104	162	266

5.4 A perusal of the above statement shows that the overall staff strength of ALIMCO has come down from 344 in 2012-13 to 266 in 2017-18, while on the other hand many new activities have been added to the profile of ALIMCO. The staff pattern has also been gradually changed from less executive (83) and more workmen (261) to more executive (104) and less workmen (162) from 2012-13 to 2017-18. When the Committee desired to know the reasons for changed staff pattern and its impact on the functioning of ALIMCO the Department in its written reply has stated as under:-

> "The authorized strength of Non-Executives is 395 and Executives is 154. Superannuation is the primary reason for shortfall in the ratio between Executives and Non-Executives. Between the years 2012 and 2018, upto 30.06.18, a total 135 Non-executives employees and 39 Executives have superannuated from the services of Corporation. There was no Succession Plan for the Corporation till the year 2014 and it has now been framed and approved by the Board of Directors of the Corporation. Accordingly, 237 vacant posts have been revived and 102 new positions created in line with the Modernization Plan of the Corporation. The revised Organisational Structure has approved strength of 651 employees. To meet out the requirement of required manpower, at present 12 vacancies have been advertised for Executives and 65 vacancies for Non-Executives. The recruitment process is going to commence, shortly".

5.5 The Department further informed that shortfall of Manpower has affected the smooth working of Corporation. The effect has been temporarily balanced with extraordinary commitments of existing work force and through re-engagement of superannuated employees, contractual (P&O), contractual Audiologist, CNC Machine Operators, and manpower hired through manpower supply agency.

5.6 On the same issue, CMD, ALIMCO also deposed before the Committee that ALIMCO has been giving salary to its skilled contractual workers equivalent to the highest salary fixed by the Government for contractual workers. But, the salary of regular worker is almost double of the contractual workers. ALIMCO is providing medical facility to contractual workers through ESI card and deducting 12.5% provident fund contribution and as per the rules depositing it alongwith ALIMCO's own contribution of 12.5%. ALIMCO is also complying with all statutory safety norms with regard to contractual workers.

5.7 The Committee note with concern that in ALIMCO the number of contractual employees is double of the regular employees. Out of the authorised strength of 549 (154 Executives+395 Non-Executives), the present staff strength is 266 (104 Executives+162 Non-Executives). The more baffling is the fact that till 2014, ALIMCO did not have any Succession Plan which normally is an integral part of any Recruitment Plan. The Committee find that from 2012 to 2018, 135 Non-executives and 39 Executives employees have superannuated but the vacancies have so far not been filled. The Committee further find that the Board of Director of ALIMCO have now approved a Succession Plan under which 237 posts have been revived and 102 new posts have been created but the recruitment process has not yet been commenced. The Committee observe that with the creation of 102 new posts and revival of 237 posts, the revised approved staff strength of the Corporation is now 651 employees while the present regular staff strength is only 266 employees and rest are contractual employees. The Committee fail to comprehend that how can an organization of the status of Mini-Ratna-II could function smoothly and efficiently when more than half of its staff strength is contractual. Such a situation generally leads to the problem of continuity and accountability as continuity of policy comes only from regular and experienced staff *vis-a-vis* contractual staff. The Committee, therefore, recommend the ALIMCO to fill up the vacant posts at all levels immediately and it must start a comprehensive recruitment process as any piecemeal approach will only delay the recruitments and compromise efficiency of the Corporation. The Committee also desire the ALIMCO to update its Succession Plan time to time and keep the recruitment roaster ready as vacancies do not arise only due to superannuation but also on account of death, resignation and VRS.

CHAPTER – VI

MONITORING AND EVALUATION MECHANISM

6.1 The Committee were informed that ALIMCO have taken initiatives to strengthen its monitoring mechanism and control over the performance of schemes/programmes being implemented by them. The initiatives are as under:-

(i) ALIMCO has introduced a web portal for the registration of beneficiaries for the purpose of getting Aids & Appliances under Government Scheme.

(ii) ALIMCO has recently implemented a policy to upload details of shortlisted and rejected (not shortlisted) candidates in case of all future recruitment on its website www.alimco.in and also made provision to invite comments of individual concerned.

(iii) ALIMCO has started a Toll Free No. 18001805129 for entertaining querie of beneficiaries and general public.

(iv) ALIMCO has made a web enabled application to facilitate its Auxiliary Production Centers and Regional Marketing Centers to enter beneficiary details using internet to enable expeditious uploading of beneficiary details on its new website www.alimco.in.

(v) ALIMCO has started E-tendering with the help of National Informatics Centre and placed order on NIC regarding implementation of e-Procurement using GePNIC web portal. All procurements are through this portal.

(vi) ALIMCO has also made arrangements for the publication of all tenders (Limited Tenders & Open Tenders) on its new website www.alimco.in and uploading of Purchase orders beyond Rs. 10 lakhs on its website.

(vii) ALIMCO has planned to upload information related to payment made to vendors on monthly basis providing details of payment.

(viii) The Corporation updated its Quality Management System Documents. The Company is committed to continuously improve its Quality. The Quality Management System of ALIMCO encompasses all the elements of the organization, including people, work environment, resources and infrastructure, customers' requirements, and safety issues. The ISO 9001:2008 certification of ALIMCO was valid up to July 2017. Now, the Corporation has been successfully audited for certification of ISO 9001:2015 for a period of three years.

6.2 When the Committee desired to know the efforts made by the Department to strengthen the monitoring and evaluation mechanism of the ALIMCO, the Department in its written reply submitted as under:-

> "Under the provisions of ADIP Scheme, Implementing Agency should maintain a website and upload details of grants received, utilized and list of beneficiaries along with their photo and Ration Card Number/Voter Identity Number on the website of the Agency. Accordingly, the details of beneficiaries covered by ALIMCO/National Institutes and other Implementing Agencies from the grants-in-aid received under ADIP Scheme have been uploaded on their respective websites along with photograph of each beneficiary. Aadhaar Card Number is to be obtained but details are not to be published. Further, the recommending authority shall conduct sample checking of beneficiaries regarding utilization of grants-in-aid by the Implementing Agency. The sample checking would cover at least 15% (in case of grant-in-aid up to Rs.10.00 lakh) and 10% (in case of grant-in-aid exceeding Rs.10.00 lakh).
>
> The Department has initiated a Third Party Impact Evaluation Study of ADIP Scheme by inviting Expression of Interest (EOI). The Request for Proposal (RFP) document is being sent to eligible bidders. This Study will throw further light on improving monitoring and evaluation parameter".

6.3 When the Committee asked how does the Department ensure that funds released to the ALIMCO under ADIP Scheme are actually utilized for the eligible disabled persons, the Department stated that sample checking of beneficiaries regarding utilization of grants-in-aid by the Implementing Agency is conducted by the Department. The sample checking covers at least 15% of beneficiaries (in case of grants-in-aid up to Rs.10.00 lakh) and 10% of beneficiaries (in case of grants-in-aid exceeding Rs.10.00 lakh). Aadhaar Number and address proof of beneficiaries is mandatory. The Department is organizing special camps through ALIMCO in which aids and assistive devices are distributed in the presence of Hon'ble Ministers/Members of Parliament/Senior Officers of the Ministry/District Administration in a transparent manner. In the case of other camps, monitoring is being done as per procedure prescribed in the ADIP Scheme.

6.4 Regarding review meetings conducted by the Department to address the shortcomings and practical difficulties faced in the functioning of ALIMCO, the Department stated that under the Companies Act, 2013, the performance of ALIMCO is reviewed against the targets given in the MoU on half yearly basis by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan) and evaluated by the Department of Public Enterprises at the end of the year. Senior Officials of the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan) visit ALIMCO Headquarters frequently to review the functioning of the Corporation.

6.5 The Committee note with satisfaction that ALIMCO has taken various initiatives to strengthen its monitoring and evaluation mechanism and control over the performance of Schemes/Programmes being implemented by them besides introducing a web portal for registration of beneficiaries for getting aids and appliances under ADIP Scheme, started a Toll Free No. 18001805129 for entertaining queries of beneficiaries and general public, e-tendering with the help of National Informatics Centre etc. Apart from this, Department has initiated a Third Party Impact Evaluation Study on ADIP Scheme by inviting Expression of Interest (EOI) to improve monitoring and evaluation parameter of the Corporation. The Committee appreciate the efforts of the Corporation and expect ALIMCO to ensure early completion of Evaluation Study as it will help in improving monitoring and evaluation mechanism not only for ADIP Scheme but also other schemes of ALIMCO as well as schemes being implemented by the Department, National Institutes and other autonomous bodies of the Department working for the upliftment of PwDs. The Committee desire that as and when the Evaluation Study is completed, the Committee may be apprised of the outcome of the study and the same may be put on website of the Department.

6.6 The Committee were informed that ALIMCO has proposed and planned some new initiatives. The details are as under:

(i) Establishment of State of the Art Limb-fitting Centre at HQ, Kanpur & Faridabad.

(ii) Production capacity of major products to be increased by 10% annually.

(iii) Establishment of R&D facility at HQ, Kanpur.

(iv) Establishment of Semi-automated/ automated facilities at Kanpur.

(v) Establishment of manufacturing facility at Faridabad.

(vi) Induction of required skilled manpower for the upcoming manufacturing set up.

(vii) Training & Skill development of existing manpower to operate the advanced machines.

(viii) Upgradation of Quality Lab to enhance the quality checking.

(ix) To decrease the dependence on Govt. grant to become self reliant and sustainable.

(x) To explore possibility of export of aids and assistive devices to neighboring countries.

6.7 The Committee are happy to note the new initiatives being planned by ALIMCO to improve its overall performance and functioning. However, the Committee would like the Department as well as ALIMCO to draw a meticulous road map to implement the new initiatives. The Committee feel that generally new initiatives and future plans look attractive at the stage of conceptualisation but get stuck or delayed due to shortage of funds and absence of proper execution plan. To guard against such eventualities, the Committee desire the Department to prioritise and categorise new initiatives into short-term, medium-term and long-term initiatives and take up for execution accordingly after making sufficient budgetary provisions.

CHAPTER VII

CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY (CSR) ACTIVITIES

7.1 The Committee were informed that ALIMCO has framed and implemented 'Corporate Social Responsibility Policy' (CSR Policy) which lays down the guidelines and the activities to undertaken by the Corporation and the same has been put on the Corporation's website www.alimco.in. ALIMCO is also working as a CSR implementation partner for many companies in empowering the Divyangjan's as part of their CSR projects. The Corporation has taken initiative and has started approaching all profit making CPSUs to take up their CSR obligation through ALIMCO for assessment and distribution of aids and assistive devices to PwDs. As a result of consistent follow up with CPSUs, the fund mobilisation under CSR initiatives has increased from Rs. 24.70 crore in the year 2016-17 to Rs. 47.12 crore in the year 2017-18. During the year 2016-17, Corporation has conducted 71 CSR camps and distributed aids & assistive devices to 17168 beneficiaries through out India under their CSR programme.

7.2 The Committee found that in view of large number of CPSUs in the country, the amount of Rs. 47.12 crore mobilised by ALIMCO under its CSR activities during the year 2017-18 is not such a big amount. When the Committee desired to know the steps being taken by Corporation to increase the volume of fund mobilization, the Department in their reply stated as under:-

> "In the original CSR provisions, provision for funding for Divyanagjan was not there. This was subsequently included in the purview of CSR Rules only after the matter was taken up by ALIMCO through Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment. The clause "Provisions for aids and appliances to the differently- abled persons" was added under category Health, Schedule VII (i)

under ‘promoting health care including preventive health care. Leaving aside small PSUs where the decision to allot CSR funds lies with concerned Human Resource Head, in all other big PSUs, CSR activities/decisions are taken by their CSR Committee/ Board of Directors with a clear roadmap for next 3 years for their CSR Activities. With national priority of “Swachh Bharat Mission”, many big PSUs have committed their CSR funds to Swachh Bharat. Despite this, ALIMCO has got substantial funds allocated for Assisting Divyangjan by signing MoUs with as many as 46 Corporates.

On the part of ALIMCO, a separate CSR Division headed by an officer of the rank of Deputy General Manager, exclusively to generate CSR funds has been created at its Headquarter in Kanpur consisting of 2 officers and 3 contractual staff. The team is constantly, seeking appointments with various profit making CPSEs in order to convince and explain the modalities of undertaking camps for Distribution of Aids & Assistive Devices to Divyangjan. Letters are regularly sent to CMDs of all Profit Making CPSEs by CMD, ALIMCO for partnering with the Corporation for provision of aids/assistive devices to Divyangjan under their CSR funds. Since majority of the CPSEs have their Headquarters in Delhi/Mumbai/Bangalore, the Corporation has recruited CSR consultants one each at Delhi, Mumbai & Bangalore to tap CSR funds. ALIMCO also actively participates in various CSR Seminars & Exhibitions in order to sensitise Public/Private Companies about the activity.”

7.3 The Committee further informed that under CSR activities the average net profit of the Corporation for the last three financial years is Rs. 3644.25 lakh and CSR expenditure i.e. two percent of the amount is Rs. 72.88 lakh. The total amount earmarked for CSR activities during the year 2016-17 is Rs. 130.64 lakh including the amount of Rs. 57.76 lakh which was unspent during the year 2015-16. ALIMCO could not spend Rs. 130.64 lakh under CSR activities in the year 2016-17 too, due to non-identification of suitable parties to undertake CSR activities of the Corporation.

7.4 The Committee note that ALIMCO has framed and implemented Corporate Social Responsibility Policy (CSR policy) which lays down the guidelines and activities to be undertaken by the Corporation. The Corporation is also approaching all profit making CPSUs to take up their CSR obligation through ALIMCO for assessment and distribution of aids and assistive devices to PwDs. At present, ALIMCO has got substantial corporate funds allocated for assisting Divyangjans by signing MOUs with 46 Corporates and is making all out efforts to increase the volume of fund mobilization under its CSR activities. The Committee find that ALIMCO has earmarked an amount of Rs. 130.64 lakh out of its profit for its own CSR activities during the year 2016-17 which includes unspent amount of Rs. 57.76 lakh of the previous year. But ALIMCO could not spend the amount under its CSR activities in the year 2016-17 due to non-identification of suitable parties. The Committee are surprised to find that as on one hand, ALIMCO is boasting of achieving increased volume of funds as CSR Implementation Partner for Corporates while on the other hand, it has not been able to spend funds meant for its own CSR activities consecutively for two years. The Committee, therefore, exhort the Department to take this issue seriously and adopt corrective measures so that CSR funds are utilised fully by ALIMCO.

New Delhi;
7 August, 2018
16 Shravana, 1940 (Saka)

RAMESH BAIS,
Chairperson,
Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment.

MINUTES OF THE FIFTEENTH SITTING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (2017-18) HELD ON FRIDAY, 29TH JUNE, 2018

The Committee met from 1430 hrs. to 1600 hrs. in Committee Room 'B', Ground Floor, Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

PRESENT

SHRI RAMESH BAIS - CHAIRPERSON

MEMBERS
LOK SABHA

2. Shri Faggan Singh Kulaste
3. Shri Santokh Singh Chaudhary
4. Shri Sher Singh Ghubaya
5. Shri Sadashiv Lokhande
6. Shri Kariya Munda
7. Dr. Udit Raj
8. Smt. Satabdi Roy
9. Shri Mansukhbhai Dhanjibhai Vasava
10. Dr. Karan Singh Yadav

RAJYA SABHA

11. Smt. Jharna Das Baidya
12. Shri Abir Ranjan Biswas
13. Smt. Chhaya Verma

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri Ashok Sajwan - Director
2. Smt. Madhu Bhutani - Deputy Secretary

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EMPOWERMENT OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES)

Sl. No.	Name	Designation and Organization
1.	Smt. Shakuntala Doley Gamlin	Secretary, Department of PwD
2.	Ms. T.C.A Kalyani	JS & FA, M/o Social Justice and Empowerment
3.	Dr. Prabodh Seth	Joint Secretary, Department of PwD
4.	Smt. Dolly Chakrabarty	Joint Secretary, Department of PwD
5.	Shri B.L. Meena	Joint Secretary, Department of SJ&E
6.	Shri D. R. Sarin	CMD, ALIMCO
7.	Shri P.K. Dubey	GM (Mktg.), ALIMCO
8.	Dr. V.P. Shah	Deputy Director, AYJNISHD

2. At the outset, Hon'ble Chairperson congratulate Shri Abir Ranjan Biswas, MP, Rajya Sabha for his nomination to the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment w.e.f. 23rd June, 2018. Then he welcomed the Members of the Committee, the representatives of the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities and the officials of Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation of India (ALIMCO) to the sitting of the Committee convened to have briefing on the subject 'Review of the functioning of Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation of India (ALIMCO)'. Impressing upon the witnesses to keep the proceedings of the Committee 'Confidential', the Chairperson asked the Secretary of the Department to brief the Committee on the subject.

3. The Secretary and the Chairman-cum-Managing Director (CMD) of the ALIMCO accordingly briefed the Committee about overall performance of the Corporation, explaining manufacture and distribution of low cost quality aids and assistive devices by the ALIMCO to meet the needs of Divyangjans with the help of a power point presentation. The broad issues discussed at the meeting are as follows:-

(i) Getting Income and Disability Certificates without any hassels by all the beneficiaries before holding ADIP camps;

(ii) Aids and Assistive Devices provided to senior citizens under the New Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana (RVY);

(iii) Modernisation of ALIMCO;

(iv) Indigenous production of new products by the Corporation;

(v) Awareness programmes conducted by the Department/ALIMCO to generate awareness among PWDs for use of new products;

(vi) Meet the entire cost of motorized tricycle (Rs. 37,000/-) by the Department;

(vii) Manpower strength and staff pattern of the Corporation; and

(viii) Difference in Salary and other facilities provided to regular employees and contractual employees in ALIMCO.

4. The Secretary and the CMD of the Corporation also responded to the queries raised by the Members to the extent possible. The Chairperson then directed the Secretary to furnish written replies to the unanswered queries raised by Members to the Secretariat at the earliest. The Secretary assured to comply.

5. The Chairperson then thanked the Secretary and other officials of the Department and ALIMCO for giving valuable information to the Committee on the subject and expressing their views in a free and frank manner on various issues raised by the Members.

A copy of the verbatim proceedings of the sitting has been kept on record.

The witnesses then withdrew.

(The Committee then adjourned.)

MINUTES OF THE SIXTEENTH SITTING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT HELD ON TUESDAY, 7th AUGUST, 2018

The Committee met from 1500 hrs. to 1530 hrs. in Chairperson's Chamber, Room No. 113, PHA Extension Building, New Delhi.

PRESENT

SHRI RAMESH BAIS - CHAIRPERSON

MEMBERS

LOK SABHA

2. Shri Sher Singh Ghubaya
3. Shri Sadashiv Lokhande
4. Smt. K. Maragatham
5. Dr. Udit Raj
6. Shri Ch. Malla Reddy
7. Smt. Satabdi R oy
8. Kunwar Bharatendra Singh
9. Prof. Sadhu Singh
10. Smt. Mamata Thakur
11. Shri Mansukhbhai Dhanjibhai Vasava
12. Shri Tej Pratap Singh Yadav
13. Dr. Karan Singh Yadav

RAJYA SABHA

14. Smt. Jharna Das Baidya
15. Shri Abir Ranjan Biswas
16. Smt. Sarojini Hembram
17. Dr. Narendra Jadhav
18. Smt. Vijila Sathyananth
19. Smt. Wansuk Syiem
20. Smt. Chhaya Verma
21. Shri Ramkumar Verma

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

1. Shri Ashok Sajwan - Director
2. Smt. Mamta Kemwal - Additional Director

2. At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Members to the sitting of the Committee.

3. The Committee then took up for consideration of the following draft Reports of the Committee:-

(i) **** **** ****

(ii) **** **** ****

(iii) **** **** ****

(iv) **** **** ****

(v) **** **** ****

(vi) **** **** ****

(vii) **** **** ****

(viii) 61st Report on 'Review of the functioning of Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation of India (ALIMCO)' of the M/o Social Justice and Empowerment (Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities).

(ix) **** **** ****

4. The Chairperson then requested the Members to give their suggestions, if any, on the draft Reports. The Reports were adopted by the Committee without any amendments. The Committee then authorized the Chairperson to finalize these draft Reports in the light of consequential changes that might arise out of factual verification of the draft Reports and to present the same to both the Houses.

The Committee then adjourned.

**** Matter not related to the Report

APPENDIX

STATEMENT OF OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS

Sl.No.	Para No.	Observations/Recommendations
1.	2.	3.
1.	2.6	**The Committee note that ALIMCO organizes Mega Camps, Special Camps and Camps under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan for distribution of aids and assistive devices to PwDs. Mega camps/Special Camps are ADIP Camps and organized on the requests received from Hon'ble Ministers from Central or State Governments, MPs, MLAs and other dignitaries. The Committee further note that if MPs/MLAs make request to the Ministry for holding Camps in their constituencies, prior intimation is given to them about the dates for holding Camps by ALIMCO in consultation with District Collectors while in other cases MPs/MLAs are informed by District Administration. The Committee, however, find that in many cases MPs/MLAs are not aware of holding of ADIP Camps in their areas. In Committee's view, presence of local MP/MLA is not only very essential but also very useful in these camps as they better understand the problems and needs of PwDs in their constituencies. The Committee, therefore, urge the Department that while conducting these camps, the Department must invariably inform the local MP(s) and Local Representatives by intimating them in advance. The Committee also desire that in order to obviate any scope of communication gap or miscommunication, the information regarding holding of these camps be loaded on the web portal of the Department as well as on the website of ALIMCO.**
2.	2.11	**The Committee note that Department has started the Unique Disability ID project for issuance of Disability Certificate and UDID card to each eligible Person with Disability. The Committee find that the project is presently being implemented in 21 States/UTs and will be rolled out to all States/UTs by December, 2018. The Department has, however, not given any information as to how many Divyangjans have so far been issued UDID card. Keeping in view that there are 2.68 crore Divyangjans in the Country and issuing UDID Cards to each and every PwD in the**

		country is an uphill task. The Committee, therefore, exhort the Department to implement the UDID project more vigorously and complete it within a definite time schedule. **The Committee are, dismayed to note that in spite of the mandate of RPwD Act, 2016 and repeated requests by the Department, many States/UTs have still not appointed independent State Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities in their respective States/UTs. The Committee do not comprehend how the Department is addressing the issue and obviating the difficulties being faced by PwDs in those States where neither UDID Cards have been issued to them nor State Commissioner for PwDs appointed. As appointment of independent State Disability Commissioner is mandatory for proper monitoring of the progress of issuing disability certificates and grievance redressal of PwDs, the Committee, recommend that the Department must now take stern action and issue fresh directions to erring States/UTs to appoint State Commissioner for PwDs and notify Rules under the RPwD Act without any further delay. The Committee may be apprised of the progress so made and the number of PwDs issued UDID Cards under the project.**
3.	2.17	**The Committee note that ALIMCO is the sole implementing agency of the Schemes 'Assistance for Disabled Persons (ADIP)', since 1981 and 'Assistance for Disabled Persons under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (ADIP-SSA)' since 2004 and manufacturer of low cost quality aids and assistive devices to meet the needs of economically weaker Divyangjans and school going children with special needs in the age group of 6-14 years. The Department has furnished the States/UTs- wise details of ADIP and ADIP-SSA camps organized by ALIMCO, number of beneficiaries and expenditure incurred for the last 3 years. The Committee find that no ADIP-SSA camp activity happened in the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram, Sikkim, Nagaland, Jharkhand, Himachal Pradesh and UTs of Lakshadweep and Puducherry during 2015-16 to 2017-18. The Committee also find that from the year 2015 to 2018 only 234113 number of disabled children have been covered under ADIP-SSA camps. The Committee feel that if need of a disabled child is addressed at an early age or early stage of disability, the potential for overall development will be enhanced in PwD child. The early interventions for providing need based equipments to disabled**

		children through ADIP-SSA camps play an important role in this matter. The Committee desire the Department to take this issue energetically with concerned States/UTs and address the problems due to which ADIP and ADIP-SSA Camps in those States/UTs are held up. The Committee also desire that more camps under ADIP-SSA should be organized to cover more disabled children.
4.	2.20	**The Committee find that Motorized Tricycle is provided to only those Divyangjans who have 80% or more disability and are not able to walk at all. The Committee are informed that the actual cost of ALIMCO's Motorized Tricycle is Rs. 37,000 but as per the guidelines under ADIP Scheme, ALIMCO can give high-end devices only upto Rs. 25,000 and the difference of Rs. 12,000 is met either by the beneficiary or by convergence with MP/MLA fund/CSR funding. The Committee in their earlier Reports had repeatedly recommended that the entire cost of tricycle must be borne by the Department so that the needy and poor Divyangjans are not left to the mercy of MP/MLA fund. Considering the fact that many of PwDs do not have access to MPs/MLAs and it is very difficult for a handicapped person to arrange funds from these sources, the Committee, urge the Department to revise the guidelines of ADIP Scheme to raise the upper limit of subsidy of high-end devices so that the entire cost of the motorized tricycle is covered under the Scheme and the poor PwDs do not have to run here and there for arranging funds. The Committee also desire that as an interim measure, the Department and ALIMCO must meet the entire cost of motorized tricycle till revision of the guidelines.**
5.	2.24	**The Committee find that to get aids and assistive living devices under the Rashtriya Vayoshree Yojana (RVY), a senior citizen needs to produce a certificate from the District Authority for eligibility or a BPL ration card or proof of receiving old age pension under Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme and the National Social Assistance Programme or any other Pension Scheme implemented by the State/UT Governments for senior citizens belonging to BPL category. The Committee strongly feel that India has a vast reservoir of senior citizens and a large part of it belongs to lower middle and middle class. This segment of elderly population has very limited financial resources and majority of them do not get pension under any**

		pension scheme/programme. The Committee feel that it is very essential to bring this segment under the ambit of Rashtriya Vayoshree Yojana. The Committee, therefore, desire the Department that the eligibility criteria based on BPL category under the scheme must be replaced with the criteria based on income as fixed under ADIP Scheme i.e. monthly income of a beneficiary from all sources does not exceed Rs. 15,000 per month. The Committee also desire that keeping in view the overall increase in the cost of living and inflation, the eligibility income criteria must be revised from Rs. 15,000 to Rs. 20,000 per month atleast for the beneficiaries under the Scheme.
6	3.4	**The Committee are satisfied to note that ALIMCO has embarked upon the process of modernization and upgradation of its products, technology and infrastructure as the present machinery and technology etc. have become obsolete. The modernization plan of the Corporation has been approved by the Standing Finance Committee (SFC) to the tune of Rs. 338.04 crore on 21.03.2018 and the project is likely to be completed by March, 2020. The Committee feel that in present modern and scientific scenario, the technology and manufacturing products profile keep changing very swiftly and to keep pace with them, it is imperative that modernization should be a continuous process and technology changes are adopted at the earliest without waiting for completion of the life cycle of plant and machinery etc. The Committee, therefore, desire that ALIMCO should keep some portion of its profit, under a separate head, and earmark it for meeting the cost of periodic upgradation and modernisation so that technology upgradation does not stuck due to lack of funds. As ALIMCO is involved in production of various assistive devices to help approximately 1.5 lakh disabled persons in their day-to-day functioning, the Committee also desire the Department to ensure that the process of modernization of ALIMCO be completed by March, 2020 positively without closing the operations of the Corporation completely.**
7.	4.13	**The Committee find that in the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (RPwD) Act, 2016 the type of disabilities have been revised from existing seven to twenty-one. Accordingly, ALIMCO look up diversification of products range to cover all categories of PwDs and have developed few new products through in-house R&D and constituted six**

		core groups headed by Directors of National Institutes for listing out aids and assistive devices for distribution. The Committee also find that out of newly developed products, only four have been introduced for distribution under ADIP Scheme and five for distribution among senior citizens. Keeping in view the large number of PwDs and senior citizens in the country, the Committee desire the ALIMCO to speed up the process of including new products to the list of aids and assistive devices to be distributed under ADIP, ADIP-SSA Scheme and Rashtriya Vayoshree Yojana and make concerted efforts for creating awareness among PwDs/senior citizens for proper use of newly launched products. The Committee find that ALIMCO has started indigenous production of High-End Prosthesis products including Below Knee and Above Knee prosthesis which were earlier being imported from ottoback, Germany and these products quality-wise are the best. The Committee appreciate such a commendable step taken by ALIMCO and hope the Corporation to strengthen its Research and Development (R&D) wing to develop and roll out more and more indigenous products for the welfare of PwDs.
8.	5.7	**The Committee note with concern that in ALIMCO the number of contractual employees is double of the regular employees. Out of the authorised strength of 549 (154 Executives+395 Non-Executives), the present staff strength is 266 (104 Executives+162 Non-Executives). The more baffling is the fact that till 2014, ALIMCO did not have any Succession Plan which normally is an integral part of any Recruitment Plan. The Committee find that from 2012 to 2018, 135 Non-executives and 39 Executives employees have superannuated but the vacancies have so far not been filled. The Committee further find that the Board of Director of ALIMCO have now approved a Succession Plan under which 237 posts have been revived and 102 new posts have been created but the recruitment process has not yet been commenced. The Committee observe that with the creation of 102 new posts and revival of 237 posts, the revised approved staff strength of the Corporation is now 651 employees while the present regular staff strength is only 266 employees and rest are contractual employees. The Committee fail to comprehend that how can an organization of the status of Mini-Ratna-II could function smoothly and efficiently when more than half of its staff strength is**

		contractual. Such a situation generally leads to the problem of continuity and accountability as continuity of policy comes only from regular and experienced staff *vis-a-vis* contractual staff. The Committee, therefore, recommend the ALIMCO to fill up the vacant posts at all levels immediately and it must start a comprehensive recruitment process as any piecemeal approach will only delay the recruitments and compromise efficiency of the Corporation. The Committee also desire the ALIMCO to update its Succession Plan time to time and keep the recruitment roaster ready as vacancies do not arise only due to superannuation but also on account of death, resignation and VRS.
9.	6.5	**The Committee note with satisfaction that ALIMCO has taken various initiatives to strengthen its monitoring and evaluation mechanism and control over the performance of Schemes/Programmes being implemented by them besides introducing a web portal for registration of beneficiaries for getting aids and appliances under ADIP Scheme, started a Toll Free No. 18001805129 for entertaining queries of beneficiaries and general public, e-tendering with the help of National Informatics Centre etc. Apart from this, Department has initiated a Third Party Impact Evaluation Study on ADIP Scheme by inviting Expression of Interest (EOI) to improve monitoring and evaluation parameter of the Corporation. The Committee appreciate the efforts of the Corporation and expect ALIMCO to ensure early completion of Evaluation Study as it will help in improving monitoring and evaluation mechanism not only for ADIP Scheme but also other schemes of ALIMCO as well as schemes being implemented by the Department, National Institutes and other autonomous bodies of the Department working for the upliftment of PwDs. The Committee desire that as and when the Evaluation Study is completed, the Committee may be apprised of the outcome of the study and the same may be put on website of the Department.**
10.	6.7	**The Committee are happy to note the new initiatives being planned by ALIMCO to improve its overall performance and functioning. However, the Committee would like the Department as well as ALIMCO to draw a meticulous road map to implement the new initiatives. The Committee feel that generally new initiatives and future plans look attractive at the stage of conceptualisation but get**

		stuck or delayed due to shortage of funds and absence of proper execution plan. To guard against such eventualities, the Committee desire the Department to prioritise and categorise new initiatives into short-term, medium-term and long-term initiatives and take up for execution accordingly after making sufficient budgetary provisions.
11.	7.4	**The Committee note that ALIMCO has framed and implemented Corporate Social Responsibility Policy (CSR policy) which lays down the guidelines and activities to be undertaken by the Corporation. The Corporation is also approaching all profit making CPSUs to take up their CSR obligation through ALIMCO for assessment and distribution of aids and assistive devices to PwDs. At present, ALIMCO has got substantial corporate funds allocated for assisting Divyangjans by signing MOUs with 46 Corporates and is making all out efforts to increase the volume of fund mobilization under its CSR activities. The Committee find that ALIMCO has earmarked an amount of Rs. 130.64 lakh out of its profit for its own CSR activities during the year 2016-17 which includes unspent amount of Rs. 57.76 lakh of the previous year. But ALIMCO could not spend the amount under its CSR activities in the year 2016-17 due to non-identification of suitable parties. The Committee are surprised to find that as on one hand, ALIMCO is boasting of achieving increased volume of funds as CSR Implementation Partner for Corporates while on the other hand, it has not been able to spend funds meant for its own CSR activities consecutively for two years. The Committee, therefore, exhort the Department to take this issue seriously and adopt corrective measures so that CSR funds are utilised fully by ALIMCO.**